CoCoRaHS

Can you believe we had SNOW before Halloween?!?

First I want to thank everyone that came out to the Open House on November 1st. It was great to meet so many of you in person. I understand even better why CoCoRaHS has done so well in Tennessee - you're GREAT folks. A couple of pictures from Bill Jones are attached.

Tennessee CoCoRaHS continues to support your neighbors. Governor Bredesen had sought a <u>disaster declaration</u> for counties effected by drought conditions again this year. The declaration has been accepted by the USDA and will help those farmers continue to be productive. Your reports are part of the equation used to justify the declaration along with the Cooperative Observer Network of the National Weather Service.

Rainfall maps are available for October from COOP and CoCoRaHS sites again. I plan on doing a yearly total map for sites with at least 95% of the observations available (350 out 365 observations). The monthly maps are from sites with 94% (29 out of 31 days) of the observations available for October. You can download the free Google Earth program here.

So what about this snow? There were 2 reports of measurable snow in October in Upper East Tennessee on the 28th of last month. Does that mean its going to be a white winter - not necessarily. Long range outlooks are very general in nature and can't be used for specific forecasts. That being said, what is the outlook? The <u>Climate Prediction Center</u> is calling for above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation for the period of December, January, and February. The <u>Old Farmer's Almanac</u> has a different viewpoint. They are calling for temperatures below normal with below normal precipitation in Tennessee. Guess we're just going to have to wait and see. (Sure wish the Bear Grease Lady was still making her predictions.)

We are still looking for more volunteers to participate in <u>CoCoRaHS</u>. If you know of anyone that might be interested please forward this email to them and invite them to join. The Volunteer State has been held up as an example for other states to follow in <u>CoCoRaHS</u>. Let's keep the movement going!

Until next month, Your Tennessee Coordination Committee Joanne, Zwemer, Craig, & Ralph





